

U.S. Department of Justice U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Texas

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SAN ANTONIO WEDDING CRASHER SENTENCED FOR STEALING AND USING CREDIT CARDS

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that 31-year-old Robin Neafie of San Antonio was sentenced this morning to 12 months in federal prison for stealing credit cards while her victims participated in weddings.

In addition to her prison term, United States District Judge Xavier Rodriguez ordered that Neafie pay \$6,908.57 restitution and be placed on supervised release for a period of two years after completing her prison term.

A search warrant executed at her apartment on, June 18, 2006, revealed numerous stolen credit cards and several "San Antonio Life" sections of the Express-News newspaper with lists of weddings. Some of the wedding announcements were circled. A Yellow Pages was book marked to the listings of the local churches. Over 150 gift cards from various businesses and restaurants were located, along with electronic devices like an IPOD, Palm Pilot, two digital cameras, and a computer.

Neafie's scheme began in July 2002, and was carried out until June 2006 during which time she used unauthorized access devices (credit cards) to defraud various merchants. The defendant planned ahead by reviewing public wedding announcements in the newspaper to decide which wedding she would attend. Wedding participants often reported a well-dressed woman hanging around the room where the bridal party prepared for the wedding. While the weddings were in progress, the well-dressed Neafie entered the room where the bridal party left their valuables during the service. She would go through the wallets and purses left unattended by the bridal party during the wedding and steal credit cards, cash, and other valuables. She used stolen credit cards to purchase various items. All told, the investigation turned up approximately 53 different stolen credit cards in Neafie's possession. Approximately 30 victim cardholders were identified. On April 26, 2007, Neafie pleaded guilty to federal access device charges.

This case was investigated by the Live Oak Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Tom Moore prosecuted this case for the government.